WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method comprising:

2   receiving information about a recognized phrase from

3   a speech engine; and

4   selecting, based on the recognized phrase, a handler

5   function from sets of handling information, each set of

6   handling information being associated with a different

7   application.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2   identifying an application that is a focus of the

3   recognized phrase, selecting the handler function being

4   further based on the identified application.

1   3.   The method of claim 2 wherein selecting a handler

2   function comprises:

3   selecting a set of handling information based on the

4   identified application; and

5   selecting a handler function from the selected set

6   of handling information based on the recognized phrase.

1   4.   The method of claim 3 further comprising, prior to

2   receiving the recognized phrase:

3   locating the sets of handling information.

1   5.   The method of claim 4 wherein each of the sets of

2   handling information is located when the execution of the

15

3   associated application is initiated.

1   6.   The method of claim 4 further comprising:

2   detecting a change of the focus from a first

3   application to a second application;

4   producing a second grammar based on the handling

5   information associated with the second application; and

6   loading the second grammar onto the speech engine.

1   7.   The method of claim 6 further comprising:

2   generating an uncompiled grammar based on the

3   handling information; and

4   compiling the grammar into a binary format.

1   8.   The method of claim 6 further comprising, prior to

2   the step of loading the second grammar:

3   unloading a first grammar associated with the first

4   application from the speech engine.

1   9.   The method of claim 6 further comprising:

2   directing an operating system to provide

3   notification in response to the focus changing;

4   wherein the step of determining when the focus

5   changes includes receiving notification from an operating

6   system.

1   10.   The method of claim 5 further comprising:

2   directing an operating system to provide

3   notification whenever the execution of an application is

4   initiated;

5   wherein each set of handling information is located

6   when the notification is provided.

1   11. The method of claim 6 further comprising:

2   storing the produced grammar; and

3   loading the stored grammar onto the speech engine

4   when the focus is changed from a third application to the

5   second application.

1   12. An article comprising a machine-readable medium

2   which stores machine-executable instructions, the

3   instructions causing a machine to:

4   receive information about a recognized phrase from a

5   speech engine; and

6   select, based on the recognized phrase, a handler

7   function from sets of handling information, each set of

8   handling information being associated with a different

9   application.

1   13. The article of claim 12, wherein the instruction

2   further cause the machine to:

3   identify an application that is a focus of the

4   recognized phrase, selecting the handler function being

5   further based on the identified application.

1   14. The article of claim 13 wherein selecting a handler

2   function comprises:

3   selecting a set of

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4   handling information based on the identified application;

5   and

6   selecting a handler function from the selected set

7   of handling information based on the recognized phrase.

1   15.   The article of claim 14 wherein the instructions

2   further cause the machine, prior to receiving the

3   recognized phrase, to:

4   locate sets of handling information, each of the

5   sets of handling information being associated with a

6   different application.

1   16.   The article of claim 15 wherein each of the sets of

2   handling information is located when the execution of the

3   associated application is initiated.

1   17.   The article of claim 15 wherein the instructions

2   further cause the machine to:

3   detect a change of the focus from a first

4   application to a second application;

5   produce a second grammar based on the handling

6   information associated with the second application; and

7   load the second grammar onto the speech engine.

1   18.   The article of claim 14 wherein the instructions

2   further cause the machine to:

3   generate an uncompiled grammar based on the handling

4   information; and

5 compile the grammar into a binary format.

1 19. The article of claim 17 wherein the instructions,

2 prior to the step of loading the second grammar, further

3 cause the machine to:

4 unload a first grammar associated with the first

5 application from the speech engine.

1 20. The article of claim 17 wherein the instructions

2 further cause the machine to:

3 direct an operating system to provide notification

4 in response to the focus changing;

5 wherein the step of determining when the focus is

6 changed includes receiving notification from an operating

7 system that the focus has been changed.

1 21. The article of claim 16 wherein the instructions

2 further cause the machine to:

3 direct an operating system to provide notification

4 whenever the execution of an application is initiated;

5 wherein each set of handling information is located

6 when the notification is provided

1 22. An apparatus comprising:

2 a memory which stores computer readable instructions;

3 a processor which executes the computer readable

4 instructions, the instructions causing the processor to:

5 receive information about a recognized phrase from a

6 speech engine;

7   identify an application that is a focus of the

8   recognized phrase; and

9   select a handler function based on the recognized

10   phrase and the application that is the focus of the

11   phrase.

1   23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein selecting a

2   handler function comprises:

3   selecting a set of handling information based on the

4   identified application; and

5   selecting a handler function from the selected set

6   of handling information based on the recognized phrase.

1   24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the instructions

2   further cause the processor, prior to receiving the

3   recognized phrase, to:

4   locate sets of handling information, each of the

5   sets of handling information being associated with a

6   different application.

1   25. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein each of the sets

2   of handling information is located when the execution of

3   the associated application is initiated.

1   26. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the instructions

2   further cause the processor to:

3   detect a change of the focus from a first

4   application to a second application;

5   produce a second

6   grammar based on the handling information associated with

7   the second application; and

8   load the second grammar onto the speech engine.

1   27.   The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the instructions

2   further cause the processor to:

3   generate an uncompiled grammar based on the handling

4   information; and

5   compile the grammar into a binary format.

1   28.   The apparatus of claim 26 wherein, prior to the step

2   of loading the second grammar, the instructions further

3   cause the processor to:

4   unload a first grammar associated with the first

5   application from the speech engine.

1   29.   The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the instructions

2   further cause the processor to:

3   direct an operating system to provide notification

4   in response to the focus changing;

5   wherein the step of determining when the focus is

6   changed includes receiving notification from an operating

7   system that the focus has been changed.

1   30.   The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the instructions

2   further cause the processor to:

3   direct an operating system to provide notification

4   whenever the execution of an application is initiated;

5   wherein each set of

6   handling information is located when the notification is

7   provided.

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